take care of special operational requirements of these areas. In addition personnel are also sent for specialised training courses on counter insurgency and jungle warfare depending on availability of seats in the related institutions.

Deletion of article 370 from the Constitution

†1862. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to delete Article 370 regarding Jammu and Kashmir from the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) No proposal to delete Article 370 regarding Jammu & Kashmir from the Constitution of India is under the consideration of the Government.

Recession in lime stone industry of Rajasthan

1863. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lime stone industries of Nimbaheda of Rajasthan are passing through a period of severe recession;

(b) whether large number of mines of lime stone are on the verge of closure resulting into severe losses and unemployment;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Lime stone when used in the Cement, Steel and Chemical Industry, comes under the purview of the Central Government

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(major minral). In all other cases it is minor mineral and comes under the purview of the State Government. As per the information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a sub-ordinate office of the Ministry of Mines, there are four working mines of limestone (major mineral) in Nimbahera of chittorgarh District in Rajasthan and the production of limestone in these mines is on increasing trend for the past three years. Working mines of limestone under minor mineral falls under the purview of the State Government.

(b) No information on severe losses and unemployment in limestone (major mineral) mines in the State of Rajasthan has been reported to the Central Government in the Ministry of Mines. Working mines of limestone under minor mineral falls under the purview of the State Government.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Effect of drought on Kota stone Industries

1864. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of industries dealing in famous Kota stones are lying closed due to severe drought condition prevailing in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details in this regard indicating the estimated losses suffered by these industries and the extent of unemployment caused as a consequences thereof; and

(c) the details of relief Government in contemplating in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Kota stone is a minor mineral in terms of Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the subject matter comes totally under purview of the State Government.